



CCM 2013 Testimony

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TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 92% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

House Bill 6495 *"An Act Concerning Revisions to the Motor Vehicle Statutes"*

CCM is thankful for the opportunity to comment on sections of HB 6495.

CCM supports the changes proposed in:

- Sec. 10 & Sec. 11: These changes would allow more flexibility when reporting tax delinquencies and when notifying the commissioner of the DMV that a delinquent tax bill has been settled. Additionally this section adds language that would prohibit the registration or renewal of a registration for an ATV or vessel if the owner has an outstanding local tax issue, until notice has been provided to the commissioner that the tax obligation has been legally discharged. This change would increase the ability of municipal tax collectors to recover outstanding taxes.
- Sec. 38: Would add motor-driven cycle, skis, or any other vehicle not designed or intended to be towed to the existing prohibitions on persons, bicycles, sleds, etc. from being illegally towed upon a public roadway. This change would increase public safety for all users of town and city roads.

CCM would like to raise concerns with:

- Sec. 12: CCM is unaware of a statewide need to reorganize the process for issuing "Q" licenses for operating fire apparatus. While the intent of this proposal has merit, there is concern that estimated fiscal efficiencies, as a potential result of this proposal, might compromise safety standards and regulations currently in practice. Additionally, there is concern regarding the potential for added liability on municipalities as a result of eliminating existing state oversight. CCM would ask the committee to further study this issue before changing the current practice which has worked well for many years.

CCM supports HB 6549 with the changes that we have indicated. We look forward to working with the members of the Transportation Committee and the Department of Motor Vehicles on this issue.

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If you have any questions, please contact M. Randall Collins Jr., Senior Legislative Associate for CCM via email rcollins@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 498-3053.